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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/454,333	12/03/1999	TOM SCHILSON	810EC014	3597

7590 02/26/2002

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EXAMINER

ARBES, CARL J

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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3729

DATE MAILED: 02/26/2002

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application N .

09/454,333

Applicant(s)

SCHILSON ET AL. *CM*

Examiner

C. J. Arbes

Art Unit

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the corresponding address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 1 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
- Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 03 December 1999.
- 2a) ☐ This action is FINAL. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-79 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☒ Claim(s) 1-79 are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 03 December 1999 is/are: a) ☒ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
- 11) ☐ The proposed drawing correction filed on _____ is: a) ☐ approved b) ☐ disapproved by the Examiner.
If approved, corrected drawings are required in reply to this Office action.
- 12) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 119 and 120

- 13) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.
- 14) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e) (to a provisional application).
a) ☐ The translation of the foreign language provisional application has been received.
- 15) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 120 and/or 121.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☐ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s). _____
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449) Paper No(s) _____ 6) ☐ Other: _____

DETAILED ACTION

Election/Restrictions

Restriction to one of the following inventions is required under 35 U.S.C. 121:

- I. Claims 1-30, drawn to a flat electrical cable, classified in class 174, subclass 117F
- II. Claims 31-46, drawn to clockspring for electrically connecting vehicle airbags, classified in class 301, subclass 807.
- III. Claims 47-60, drawn to modular rotary anvil, classified in class 156 subclass 379.6
- IV. Claims 61-71, drawn to method of bonding a flat electrical cable, classified in class 156, subclass 73.4.
- V. Claims 72-79, drawn to method of assembling a clockspring, classified in class 29, subclass 825.

The inventions are distinct, each from the other because of the following reasons:

Group I is separate and distinct from Group II inasmuch as Group II is a combination and Group I a subcombination and the Group I invention can be used in another environment i.e. without a housing; Group I is separate and distinct from Group III inasmuch as these inventions are independent; Group I is separate and distinct from Group IV inasmuch as in Group I to simultaneously feed the upper and lower layers of insulating materials; Group I is separate and distinct from Group V inasmuch Group I recites a flat electrical cable whereas Group V recites a method of

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making a clockspring; Group II is separate and distinct from Group III inasmuch as the recited clockspring is independent from the rotary anvil (Group III); Group II is separate and distinct from Group IV inasmuch the recited invention Group II recites a clockspring whereas Group IV recites method of assembling an electrical cable; Group II is separate and distinct from Group V inasmuch as Group II is drawn to a clockspring but the method of assembly recited in Group V does not have to be carried out to produce the article i.e. there is no need to have sub-steps of simultaneously feeding insulating material to make the clockspring; Group III is separate and distinct from Group IV inasmuch as these two groups are independent; Group III is separate and distinct from Group V inasmuch as these two groups are quite independent i.e. the modular rotary anvil is quite independent from a method of assembling a clockspring; Group IV is separate and distinct from Group V inasmuch as method of making the flat electrical cable can be used to make cables which really do not have to be used to make clockspring; to make the flat cable it would not be necessary to insert the cable into a housing and the method of making the cable can be useful in making products other than a clockspring.

Because these inventions are distinct for the reasons given above and have acquired a separate status in the art as shown by their different classification, restriction for examination purposes as indicated is proper.

Because these inventions are distinct for the reasons given above and have acquired a separate status in the art because of their recognized divergent subject matter, restriction for examination purposes as indicated is proper.

Because these inventions are distinct for the reasons given above and the search required for the various Groups are not required for other Groups.

Applicant is reminded that upon the cancellation of claims to a non-elected invention, the inventorship must be amended in compliance with 37 CFR 1.48(b) if one or more of the currently named inventors is no longer an inventor of at least one claim remaining in the application. Any amendment of inventorship must be accompanied by a request under 37 CFR 1.48(b) and by the fee required under 37 CFR 1.17(i).

Applicant is advised that the reply to this requirement to be complete must include an election of the invention to be examined even though the requirement be traversed (37 CFR 1.143).

Any inquiry concerning this communication should be directed to C. J. Arbes at telephone number (703)308-1857.



Carl J. Arbes
Primary Examiner